

## Message Text

SECRET POSS DUPE

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 021802Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9110

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

USDEL MBFR VIENNA

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 05313

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PARM, NATO, MBFR, GW

SUBJECT: MBFR: FURTHER FRG THINKING ON OPTION III

REF: LONDON 4802

1. MBFR DEPT. DIRECTOR RUTH PROVIDED US ON APRIL 2 WITH FURTHER DETAILS OF FRG THINKING ABOUT OPTION III. RUTH SAID HIS OFFICE HAS TRIED TO DEVELOP MODELS FOR THE INCLUSION OF OPTION III IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. HE STRESSED THAT THE MODELS SET FORTH BELOW ARE PREDICATED BY THE PRIORITY WHICH THE FRG ATTACHES TO THE CONCEPT OF THE COMMON CEILING. RUTH EXPLAINED FURTHER THAT THE FRG MODELS CONCENTRATE ON MANPOWER REDUCTIONS. HE SAID THAT THE FRG ASSUMES THAT BY REDUCING MANPOWER AND ALSO PROVIDING FOR A NO-INCREASE COMMITMENT, THE EQUIPMENT ELEMENTS WOULD AUTOMATICALLY BE AFFECTED. HE SAID THIS IS THE FRG'S FIRST PREFERENCE FOR HANDLING THE EQUIPMENT PROBLEM. RUTH STRESSED THAT THESE MODELS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WORKING-LEVEL PROPOSITIONS ONLY.

2. MODEL A

ELEMENT 1: AGREEMENT TO THE COMMON CEILING

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CONCEPT.

ELEMENT 2: REDUCTIONS:

U.S. -29,000 MEN AND OPTION III.

SOVIET UNION - 68,000 MEN (EITHER (A) IN THE FORM OF A TANK ARMY BUT WITHOUT A SPECIFIC NUMBER OF TANKS OR (B) LIMITING REDUCTIONS TO PERSONNEL ONLY WITH AN INDIRECT REDUCTION OF EQUIPMENT).

ELEMENT 3: NON-INCREASE FOR:

- GROUND FORCE MANPOWER
- AIR FORCE MANPOWER
- WARHEADS
- SSM'S WITH A RANGE OF MORE THAN 500 KM
- AMERICAN AND SOVIET AIRCRAFT AND TANKS WILL BE COVERED BY THE GROUND AND AIR PERSONNEL STRENGTHS OR THROUGH THE NON-INCREASE OF THE AIRCRAFT SUITABLY DEFINED FOR REDUCTION. (PARALLEL TO THE INTRODUCTION OF OPTION III, SHOULD OPTIONAL REDUCTIONS OF AMERICAN AND SOVIET AIR MANPOWER BE OFFERED, THE NON-INCREASE OF THE REDUCED AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE INSURED ONLY THROUGH A NON-INCREASE AGREEMENT WITH REGARD TO PERSONNEL STRENGTH.)

ELEMENT 4: CATEGORY III PORTION (EUROPEAN REDUCTIONS): NON-INCREASE OF GROUND AND AIR PERSONNEL. (COMMENT: AT THIS POINT IN THE DISCUSSION RUTH SAID THAT IN WASHINGTON THE OPINION WAS EXPRESSED THAT SUCH AN OFFER WITH

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REGARD TO EUROPEAN FORCES PROBABLY WOULD NOT BE ENOUGH FOR THE RUSSIANS. THE QUESTION WAS POSED AS TO WHAT ELSE SHOULD BE INCLUDED. IN SUCH A CASE, THE FRG BELIEVES THAT A NUMERICALLY DEFINED COMMON CEILING WOULD HAVE TO BE DEMANDED AS SET FORTH BELOW IN MODEL B. END COMMENT)

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ACTION SS-25

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R 021802Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9111

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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S E C R E T SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 05313

EXDIS

MODEL B

ELEMENT 1: AGREEMENT TO A NUMERICALLY DEFINED  
COMMON CEILING.

ELEMENTS 2 AND 3: AS DESCRIBED ABOVE FOR  
MODEL A.

ELEMENT 4: POSSIBLE CATEGORY III PORTION.

- NON-INCREASE FOR PERSONNEL STRENGTHS  
OF GROUND AND AIR FORCES.
- NON-INCREASE OF THE AGGREGATE TOTAL  
OF WARHEADS.
- NON-INCREASE OF THE AGGREGATE TOTAL  
OF SSM'S WITH A RANGE OF OVER 500  
KMS.
- AIRCRAFT TO BE COVERED THROUGH  
THE NON-INCREASE OF AIR MANPOWER.

THE EXPANDED ELEMENT 4 SHOULD BE MADE

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DEPENDENT UPON EASTERN AGREEMENT TO A  
NUMERICALLY DEFINED COMMON CEILING  
(I.E., NOT ONLY AGREEMENT TO THE COMMON  
CEILING CONCEPT)."

3. WITH REGARD TO THE BRITISH SUGGESTION ON OPTION  
III DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL, RUTH SAID THAT TICKELL'S IDEA  
HAD ESSENTIALLY BEEN FOLDED INTO THE FRG MODELS A AND  
B. THE FRG IS FAVORABLY INCLINED TOWARD THE IDEA  
SINCE THE GERMANS WISH TO AVOID RESTRAINTS ON US/  
ALLIED TANKS.

4. TO RECAP FRG THINKING, THE MODELS SET FORTH ABOVE  
REPRESENT AN ATTEMPT TO SOLVE THREE INTERRELATED  
PROBLEMS: (1) INCLUSION OF THE COMMON CEILING IN THE  
DISCUSSIONS; (2) AVOIDANCE OF A LIMITATION ON WESTERN  
TANKS; AND (3) MAINTENANCE OF FLEXIBILITY IN THE AIR  
COMPONENT.  
HILLENBRAND

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